

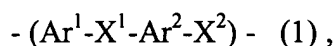
## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

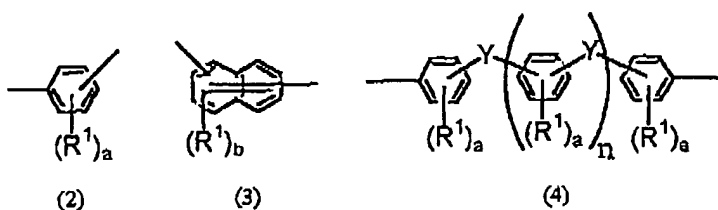
### LISTING OF CLAIMS:

What is claimed is;

1. (currently amended) A block copolymer comprising at least one segment having an acid group and at least one segment substantially free from an acid group, wherein the segment having an acid group comprises a repeating unit which is a substituted repeating unit represented in the formula (1) with an acid group,



and in the formula (1),  $\text{X}^1$  and  $\text{X}^2$  being each independently -O- or -S-,  $\text{Ar}^1$  and  $\text{Ar}^2$  being each independently an aromatic group selected from the groups represented by the following formulae (2) to (4),



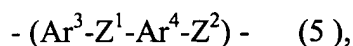
wherein,  $\text{R}^1$  is a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a ~~nitrile~~ nitril group, a nitro group, an amino group, an optionally substituted alkyl group with a carbon number of 1 to 10, an optionally substituted alkoxy group with a carbon number of 1 to 10, an optionally substituted aryl group

with a carbon number of 6 to 10, or an optionally substituted aryloxy group with a carbon number of 6 to 10, a is an integer of 0 to 4, and b is an integer of 0 to 6, in a case of plural  $R^1$ ,  $R^1$  may be the same or different, or be bonded to each other, Y is a direct bond, -O-, -S-, an optionally substituted alkylene group with a carbon number of 1 to 6, or an optionally substituted alkylenedioxy group with a carbon number of 1 to 6, and n is an integer of 0 to 2, in a case of plural Y, Y may be the same or different, and in a case where both of  $X^1$  and  $X^2$  are -O-, both of  $Ar^1$  and  $Ar^2$  being not the group represented by the formula (2).

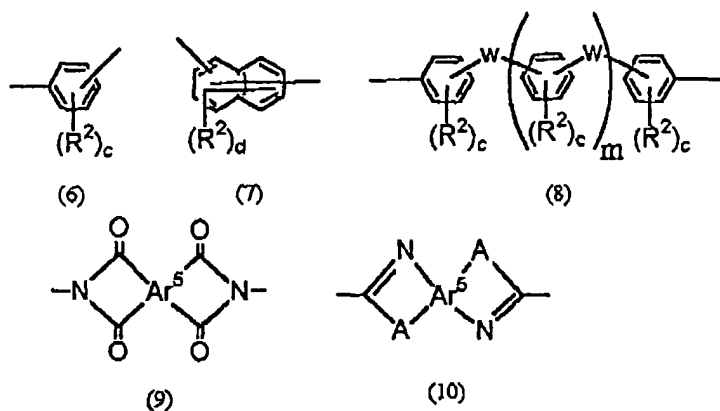
2. (original) The copolymer according to Claim 1, wherein the acid group is a strong acid group or a super strong acid group.

3. (amended) The copolymer according to ~~any one of Claim 1 to 2~~, Claim 1, wherein  $X^1$  and  $X^2$  are -O-.

4. (amended) The copolymer according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~, Claim 1, wherein the segment substantially free from an acid group comprises a repeating unit represented by the following formula (5),

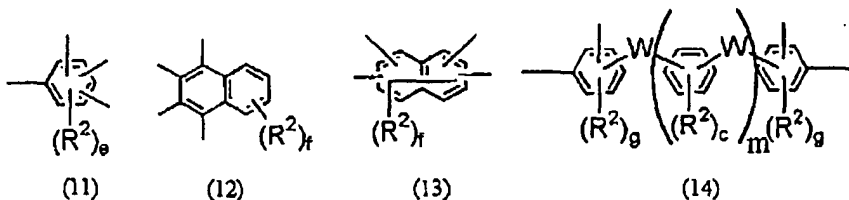


in the formula (5), ~~Z being~~  $Z^1$  and  $Z^2$  each independently representing direct bond, -O- or -S-, and  $Ar^3$  and  $Ar^4$  being each independently an aromatic group selected from the groups represented by the following formulae (6) to (10),



wherein,  $R^2$  is a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a nitrile ~~nitril~~ group, a nitro group, an amino group, an optionally substituted alkyl group with a carbon number of 1 to 10, an optionally substituted alkoxy group with a carbon number of 1 to 10, an optionally substituted aryl group with a carbon number of 6 to 10, or an optionally substituted aryloxy group with a carbon number of 6 to 10,  $c$  is an integer of 0 to 4, and  $d$  is an integer of 0 to 6, in a case of plural  $R^2$ ,  $R^2$  may be the same or different, or be bonded to each other,  $W$  is a direct bond,  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-CO-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ , an optionally substituted alkylene group with a carbon number of 1 to 6, or an optionally substituted alkylenedioxy group with a carbon number of 1 to 6,  $m$  is an integer of 0 to 2, in a case of plural  $W$ ,  $W$  may be the same or different,  $A$  is  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ , or  $-NR^3-$  in which  $R^3$  is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group with a carbon number of 1 to 10, two of  $A$  may be the same or different,  $Ar^5$  is an aromatic group selected from the groups represented by the following formulae

(11) to (14)



where,  $R^2$ ,  $W$  and  $m$  are the same as the above,  $e$  is an integer of 0 to 2,  $f$  is an integer of 0 to 4, and  $g$  an integer of 0 to 3.

5. (original) A polymer electrolyte comprising the copolymer according to Claim 1.
6. (original) A polymer electrolyte membrane comprising the polymer electrolyte according to Claim 5.
7. (original) A catalyst composition comprising the polymer electrolyte according to Claim 5.
8. (original) A fuel cell comprising the polymer electrolyte membrane according to Claim 6.
9. (original) A fuel cell comprising the catalyst composition according to Claim 7.